

Smith County Sheriff's Department
PRA Office
P.O. Box 307
Raleigh, MS 39153

July 3, 2020

This is a follow up to a previous request:

To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to follow up on the following Mississippi Public Records Act request, copied below, and originally submitted on Feb. 20, 2020. Please let me know when I can expect to receive a response.

Thanks for your help, and let me know if further clarification is needed.

Filed via MuckRock.com
E-mail (Preferred): 88409-65510876@requests.muckrock.com

For mailed responses, please address (see note):
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 88409
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.

On April 28, 2020:
Subject: RE: Mississippi Public Records Act Request: Smith County Sheriff's Department Body-Worn Camera Policy
Hi Sheriff Houston,

Thanks so much for your help with this request! I really appreciate it.

Sincerely,
Blake Feldman

On April 28, 2020:
Subject: RE: Mississippi Public Records Act Request: Smith County Sheriff's Department Body-Worn Camera Policy
Hi Sheriff Smith,

Thanks so much for your help with this request! I really appreciate it.

Sincerely,
Blake Feldman

On April 2, 2020:

Subject:

A no responsive documents response.

On Feb. 20, 2020:

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request: Smith County Sheriff's Department

Body-Worn Camera Policy

Dear Sheriff Houston:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

1. All policies, practices, procedures, rules, or orders concerning the use of body cameras, including:
 - a. policies or procedures governing use of body cameras;
 - b. what types of data are obtained;
 - c. the conditions under which body cameras are used;
 - d. the frequency of body camera use;
 - e. the number of body camera units or systems acquired;
 - f. the number of officers equipped with body cameras;
2. All policies, practices, procedures, rules, or orders concerning the review of body camera data by supervising officers or staff or civilian review personnel to ensure officer compliance with department or agency policies and applicable state and federal law;
3. All policies, practices, procedures, rules, or orders concerning the storage of data obtained using body cameras, including:
 - a. where the data is stored;
 - b. how long data is stored;
 - c. when data must be discarded; and
 - d. how much data your agency or department currently stores;
4. All policies, practices, procedures, rules, or orders concerning access to body camera data, including:
 - a. the legal justification required before a law enforcement employee or member of the public may access body camera data;
 - b. purposes for which the data may be accessed;
 - c. purposes for which the data may not be accessed;
 - d. who may access the data, what procedures they must go through to obtain access, and who must authorize access; and
 - e. the existence of a system that records who accesses the data and when the data is accessed;
5. All policies, practices, procedures, rules, or orders concerning the sharing of data obtained through body cameras, including:
 - a. what type of data is shared;
 - b. what databases your agency puts collected body camera data into; and
 - c. third parties, governmental or private, that may access your agency's body camera data, including what procedures a third party must go through to access the data and any restrictions placed on a third party regarding further sharing of your body camera data;
6. All agreements to share body camera data with outside agencies or departments, corporations, or other entities; and

7. All training materials used to instruct members of your department or agency in body camera deployment, data management, or operation of automated records systems that contain body camera data to which any member of your department or agency has access, including regional or shared databases.

If this records request is denied in whole or in part, please provide (1) whether the documents in question exists, and if so, (2) the statutory exemption you are claiming prevents their release. If Smith County Sheriff's Department claims an exemption for some of the requested documents, please produce those for which it does not claim an exemption, including records where the exempt portions are redacted.

Because the requested documents will be made available to the general public, this request is not being made for commercial purposes, and the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest, I am requesting a waiver of any fees for searching or copying these records. In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. If possible, I prefer that the records be produced in electronic format.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Blake Feldman

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Joel Houston

From: Joel Houston
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2020 2:30 PM
To: '88409-65510876@request.muckrock.com'
Subject: Response from Smith County Sheriff's Department
Attachments: DOC033120-03312020141745.pdf

A response is being mail as well

Thanks

Smith County Sheriff's Department
Sheriff Joel Houston
Office 601-782-4531
Fax 601-782-4435
Cell 601-953-2290





Joel Houston

Sheriff, Smith County

P.O. Box 307 • Raleigh, Mississippi 39153

Office: 601.782.4531 • Fax: 601.782.4435



March 21, 2020

This is response to a previous request:

Blake Feldman,

The Smith County Sheriff's Department in Mississippi does not utilize Body-worn cameras therefore we have not implemented a body camera policy.

Sincerely

Joel Houston

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Houston", written over the printed name.